

County Council Meeting
March 18, 2014

Present: Jim Seiler, Steve Winsett, Jack Kroeger, Dave Kress, Matt Knepper, Bill Spaetti, Attorney Eric Ayer, Auditor Jane Lynam

Absent: Blake Bunner

Meeting was called to order by President Jack Kroeger at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes

Winsett made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3rd. Spaetti seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Temporary Closing of Meeting

Kress made a motion to temporarily close the regular meeting and open the Public Hearing for Automated Routing. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was granted.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing was called to order by the President Jack Kroeger at 5:03 P.M. Francis Lueken and four of the five Schaefer Bothers were present. Lueken spoke to the Council and explained that all notices had been published; all requirements by Statute have been completed. Lueken asked that the Council confirm the action taken at the March 3rd meeting in the adoption of the Resolution, We have refined the SB-1 form, second page that calls for signatures to give detail consistent with the action you are taking. On page 2, item C, the amount of the deduction applicable is limited to and then a dollar sign, this is a new form, the conclusion we came to was that given the decision of the Council to adopt a 10 year tax phase-in with a certain percentage each year down through the tenth year that that is what defines the phase in that you have adopted; that you did not ever intend to create a certain dollar limit in your action. Winsett responded so what you're saying is that that can be left blank. Lueken said he and Kroeger decided to put in Not Applicable. Kroeger said we are taking the opinion that it won't apply in this situation so put Not Applicable on that line.

Spaetti asked if the new employee number had been changed from 4 to 8. Lueken said it had been changed. Spaetti said that at the LEDC meeting this expansion project was brought up and everyone was happy with what the Council did to keep this company, Automated Routing, in Spencer County.

Public Comment was asked for and there was no public comment.

Kress made a motion to approve as adopted at the last meeting. Seiler seconded the motion, motion was approved. Council thanked Automated Routing for staying in Spencer County and expanding.

Spaetti made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Reopening Regular Meeting

Additional Appropriations

County General \$2,000.

Purdue Extension request was made by Larry Dimmett and he spoke to the Council. This money is for the phone bill for the rest of the year.

Kress made a motion to approve the \$2,000. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Cum Cap \$2,885

Communications System

Purdue Extension request was made by Larry Dimmett and he spoke to the Council explaining this was for the communications system.

Spaetti made the motion to approve the \$2,885. Seiler seconded the motion, motion was approved.

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Internet Wiring \$2,500.

Purdue Extension request was made by Larry Dimmett and he spoke to the Council to explain this money was for internet wiring. If the cost goes over this amount the building fund will take care of it.

Kress made a motion to approve the \$2,500. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Office Furniture \$11,164.

Purdue Extension request was made by Larry Dimmett and he spoke to the Council explaining that the desks they are using now will not fit in the space they have now. There were questions asked as to how many desks were really needed and who the desks would belong to once they were purchased. Commissioner Gogel said we are obligated to provide the office space per our agreement with Purdue, so the desks will belong to the County.

Winsett made a motion to approve the \$11,164. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved. Winsett said since the Extension Office is moving out this leaves us with office space that can help reduce some of the rent we now pay, possibly.

County General

Circuit Court \$5,000.

Request was made by Judge Dartt and he spoke to the Council. He explained that they had to have a Psychological Evaluation done on a defendant in a murder case and that's where the cost came from.

Spaetti made a motion to approve the \$5,000. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Interpreter \$1,000.

Request was made by Judge Dartt and he spoke to the Council. He explained that they have two defendants that can't speak or understand English; they had to have a Supreme Court appointed interpreter.

Kress made a motion to approve the \$1,000. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Judge Dartt explained to the Council that he was working on ways to pay for the internet cost associated with the video conferencing and will present it at budget time.

Surveyors Corner Stone Perpetuation \$5,000.

Request was made by Surveyor Stanley Herron and he spoke to the Council. He explained that he is out of money to pay for the location of corner stones and needs more money appropriated to that line item.

Winsett made a motion to approve the \$5,000. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Reassessment \$129,320.

Request was made by the Auditor. Kroeger addressed the Council and explained that due to the fact that the Council didn't review cities and towns we were taken back to 2013 budgets and last year there was no budget for reassessment until we did an additional so we have to do the same thing this year to fund her budget.

Kress made a motion to approve the \$129,320. Spaetti seconded the motion, motion was approved.

COIT \$450,000.

Request was made by Assessor Sara Arnold and she spoke to the Council. Arnold explained that the money was needed for a contract. On July 1 cyclical reassessment begins, that means that 25% of parcels have to be reviewed every year, instead of doing reassessment once every 10 years it is broken down to 4 years at 25% each year. In order for the Commissioners to open the bids at the April 1st meeting I have to have the money appropriated before they can sign the contract. You can set the levy at whatever amount you decide at budget time. In a couple of years depending on where you set the levy I may be able in the last two years of the contract to put the amount of that contract that's left back in the reassessment budget and I'll do that if I have the cash to do it.

Seiler made a motion to approve the \$475,000 out of the COIT Fund for the purpose of signing the reassessment contract for the next four years. Kress seconded the motion, motion was approved.

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Stephanie Melton-LEPC Annual Financial Report

Melton presented copies of the LEPC spending plan and the chemical data report. She explained that this was just a courtesy to let the Council know that this money is in the county. It changes every year, but ranges approximately \$4,000 per year.

Melissa Brockman-2013 Annual Report

Brockman explained that this material was the same material we have discussed before, but you have the whole year's information together. This report is just to keep you updated and informed as to what the Visitors Bureau does.

Carter Fire District \$22,905. Appropriation Only

Ken Schaaf made the request. Dan Reinke was present and spoke to the Council. Reinke explained that Vectren had paid them \$22,905 for an easement. We want to use that money to build a parking lot on the south side of the existing fire department. With the new transmission line in front we aren't allowed to set up the truck in front, so to keep from going off site we want to build the parking lot in the back, we aren't asking for any money it just has to be appropriated.

Kress made the motion to approve the appropriation for \$22,905. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved.

Legal Report

Ayer explained that the 2014 contract between Sheriff Kermit Lindsey and the county had been signed by the Sheriff and the Commissioners and needed to be signed by the Council.

Spaetti made a motion to approve the compensation agreement with Sheriff Lindsey. Winsett seconded the motion, motion was approved.

New Business

Tara Lloyd presented the 2014 CEDIT Plan to the Council. She wanted to let everyone know that she had resigned, but still intends to work with the County in a different capacity. Council members thanked her for her service and wished her well in her new job.

Kevin Patmore-Town of Santa Claus

Kevin Patmore and Ron Smith President of Santa Claus Towns Council were present. Patmore spoke to the Council and explained that transportation was a huge problem for the town of Santa Claus to keep growth occurring in the area. Long term, one of the big things we looked at was we have a lot of campers and the demographic of the area lends itself to bicycles. We have no infrastructure for that, so we started talking to INDOT, and developing a trail plan around Santa Claus. Major routes that we hit on as necessary to start on was a north, south route from Yellig Park to Christmas Lake Village, and east, west route through the middle of town to the National Park. We received \$340,000 in 2011 to do the design and engineering for this trail project. Another project that INDOT told us to do was to open Kasper Drive back up, so in 2012 using \$300,000 of local funding we reconstructed Kasper Drive, paved it and put in a bike, pedestrian lane next to it, that was our first bike, pedestrian project in Santa Claus. Patmore showed their plans for trails in and around Santa Claus; total projects will be 7.5 million dollars. Patmore said we would like to see county support, no money now because we can't bid anything until July Of 2015. Patmore said he had talked to Vectren Corporation about financing but they want to wait and see what local support we have before they commit. We are also asking the Governor and Lilly for money toward this project. We would like to see a multiple year commitment say for the years of 2015, 2016 and 2017 from the county toward completion of these projects.

Spaetti asked how wide the bike trail would be and Patmore responded 10 feet wide. They will be 60 to 70 feet off of the highway, because that's how INDOT wants it, a buffer zone between vehicles and bicycles. Spaetti said he could see people who camp at Lake Rudolph and surrounding areas using the bike paths.

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Kroeger asked if financing could be specific to a project. Spaetti said if we commit COIT money we would need to be specific about what we are using if for, because other communities will be coming in and asking for help also. Kroeger then said we need to figure out how the county can participate and be a little specific about what we are supporting; you are going to have to get more specific about what project and what amount of money you are looking for before we can make a decision. Kroger then asked Patmore to email the Economic Development Impact Studies concerning bike and pedestrian trails he has to the Council so they could read through them. Winsett made a motion to adjourn. Knepper seconded the motion, motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

President

Attest:

Auditor, Jane Lynam
